

UNCLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TELEGRAM

05/07/77
07 May 77
2124

BNØ31

INDICATE
☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

E.O. 11652:
TAGS:
SUBJECT:

ACTION:

FROM
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

CLASSIFICATION

NA
PINS PGOV AR
Terrorist attack on Argentine Foreign Minister Guzzetti

SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

BUENOS AIRES 1388/ 3371

AMB
DCM
POL3
POL/R
ECOM
USIS
RF
CHRON

1. We confirm wire service reports and GOA announcement that FonMin Vice Admiral Cesar Augusto Guzzetti was attacked and seriously wounded by persons presumed to be terrorists at 1150 hours Saturday May 7.
2. During farewell call on President Videla in afternoon May 7, Ambassador Hill was told by Videla of attack on Guzzetti. According Videla's account, Guzzetti in keeping with his established practice of undergoing physical exam each Saturday morning at same clinic, entered room to leave laboratory specimen and was attacked by man and woman who struck him on head with a pipe in apparent kidnapping attempt. Admiral was found on floor shortly thereafter with fractured skull. His condition is considered very serious. Assailants escaped. Videla subsequently called Ambassador to report that he had received clarification of original report. Guzzetti had been shot in head, bullet had been removed from brain by surgery, and condition still

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/TPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

() In Part (X) In Full () Downgrade to

() Classify as () Extend as () Reason

Date

DRAFTED BY:

POL:RSSSteven: jr

DRAFTING DATE

5/9/77

TEL. EXT.

121

CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:

A/POLCOUNS:AGFreeman

CLEARANCES:

DCM:MChaplin

AMB:RChill

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CLASSIFICATION

50153-101

OPTIONAL FORM 153
(Formerly FS-413)
January 1975
Dept. of State

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20/185

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very serious.

3. Official announcement by Presidential press office up to 1800 hours indicated only that Guzzetti had suffered severe head wound, and gave no other details. According to one version of incident which has reached us, Guzzetti was first hit over head and then dragged into a room at hospital and shot.
4. Unconfirmed story reaching us late afternoon is that Guzzetti is dead, and that GOA will make announcement shortly. Suggest Dept may wish prepare appropriate messages, one with best wishes for recovery and other with condolences for death.
5. Aside from obvious political import, incident demonstrates that terrorists can reach even top GOA official, especially if he follows set pattern of activity.

HILL

Classification

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